

THE HOME AND SOCIAL BACKGROUND OF THE WOMEN STUDENTS
AT SAMUEL HUSTON COLLEGE FOR NEGROES
DURING 1937-38

by

Ethel Hannah Keith
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INTRODUCTION

Samuel Huston College, located at Austin, Texas, is a coeducational college for Negroes. It was opened by the Board of Education of the Methodist Episcopal church in 1900, and offered a complete program beginning with the first grade through a four year college course. Some years later as the public schools for Negroes improved, the elementary and high school curricula were discontinued. Now the school is a four year accredited college offering only college courses.

At the time Samuel Huston College was opened there were few schools providing high school and college training for Negroes. Even the elementary school facilities were meager and poor. One of the objectives of the college was to prepare the students to earn their living, to participate satisfactorily in family and social life and to become leaders in their community. At first, the curricula offerings were limited, but now they have been expanded until the students have a wide range of choices.

Home economics soon had an important place in the curriculum of Samuel Huston College. The objectives of the college and the part that home economics plays in the personal and vocational life of Negro women were reasons for this.

In 1902, the Woman's Home Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church furnished a sewing teacher and home economics of some type was taught in the grades, high school and college from that time on. The work continued for a long time on rather an elementary level, emphasizing manipulative skills in sewing and cooking. Three years after the introduction of home economics in 1905, the college had its first graduate in "Dressmaking".

From the first the women students who lived in the college dormitory had some household tasks that they did under supervision. Most of the duties were changed each month so that each student received training in various types of housework. This plan is still carried on.

The Home Economics Department in 1933-34 was completely reorganized. New subjects were offered and new equipment was added. A full four year program in home economics leading to a B. S. degree was adopted. In addition, provision was made for students in other departments to minor in home economics or to elect courses in this department.

Recent years have shown an increased interest in home economics by the students and their parents as a course to take in college. As a result, the Department of Home Economics is growing rapidly.

Interest, therefore, has been centered recently in

developing and improving the home economics program to meet in a better way the present and future needs of the women attending this college. To do this, more knowledge was needed of the home and social background of these students. This study was made to secure information of this nature which could be used in making the home economics curriculum of Samuel Huston College a more functioning one.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

A review of literature showed that no study of this type had been made of Negro college women students. A number of studies had been made in which home activities and social background had been included but were of Negro women other than college students.

Griggs (1930) made a study in which she planned a curriculum for home economics for the Negro Land Grant College in Florida. Her basic information secured from college administrators and teachers, college students, parents and reports was obtained through personal visits, interviews, questionnaires and published reports. Although her study was not confined to the home and family background of Negro college students she did secure some data concerning these, which she considered in planning her curriculum.

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Owens (1932) made a study of the home activities and housing conditions of Negro girls in the rural secondary schools of Virginia as an index of their curricular needs. The questionnaire method was used. Her conclusions were:

1. That it would seem advisable to include training in the managerial and social phases of home economics.
2. That because many mothers are employed, and many girls work at home without supervision, manipulative work should be carried on in school to the stage of skill.
3. That home economics in high school should have as one of the major objectives the improvement of the dietetic practices of the group.
4. That since many of the girls will probably engage in wage-earning occupations in which household equipment is used, it would seem that training in care, selection, and use of equipment for given communities and for different incomes should be given.

May (1933) made a study of the in-school and out-of-school activities of home economics teachers in the Negro schools of Texas. She secured her data by means of checking lists from all of the Smith Hughes Negro home economics teachers in Texas that year. She obtained some information concerning the home and social activities of these teachers. The standard of living of these teachers was much above that of the families of girls in their classes. Many of the teachers had very undesirable living and social conditions where they taught.

Masters (1937) made a study of the standards of living of farm families of the Sand Mountain Plateau of northern Alabama. These were not Negro families, but were what is known as "poor mountain whites". The home and family life of these people is similar to that of the home life of the Negro farm families throughout the South. She concluded that the standard of living of the families of her study was low when judged by the average total value of goods consumed and the distribution of the classes of goods among the total. Food took the largest percentage of the total living expenditures.

METHOD OF PROCEDURE

A checking list was prepared to secure the data for this study. This list was checked by seven college women students as a preliminary trial. The list was then revised and made into final form and was given to the women students of Samuel Huston College. Eighty completely checked lists were returned.

The data were tabulated, analyzed and evaluated. Findings were listed and summarized, and recommendations based on these findings were made.

TABLES AND FINDINGS

Table 1. Where the women students live.

Size of cities	10,000 & over	200-10,000	Farm	Total
Number of students	28	38	14	80
Per cent	35.0	47.5	17.5	100.0
States in which the students live	Texas	California	Louisiana	
Number of students	76	2	2	80
Per cent	95.0	2.5	2.5	100.0
Number of miles from town	1-2 $\frac{1}{2}$	2 $\frac{1}{2}$ -4	4-12	
Number of students	6	0	8	14
Per cent	43.0	0	57.0	100.0

Most of the students were from cities and large towns in Texas. Six lived on farms 1 to 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ miles from town and 8 lived 4 to 12 miles from town.

Table 2. Age distribution of women students.

Age Groups	Per Cent							
	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	25
City	14.3	25.0	14.2	21.4	10.6	14.5	0.	0.
Town	7.9	28.9	13.2	18.4	21.1	8.3	2.6	19
Farm	14.3	21.4	21.4	7.2	14.3	0.	14.3	7.2
Total	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

The age distribution ranged from 17 to 25 years with 19 years as the median.

Table 3. Year in college.

	Per Cent			
	Freshman	Sophomore	Junior	Senior
City	28.6	25.0	28.6	17.8
Town	47.4	26.3	18.5	7.8
Farm	71.5	14.3	7.1	7.1

The largest percentage of the students were freshmen and the smallest percentage seniors.

Table 4. Number of towns in which women students have lived.

Number of towns	Per Cent						
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7 Median
City	3.2	21.5	14.3	35.7	7.1	17.8	0.
Town	0.	50.0	26.3	15.8	5.3	0.	2.7
Farm	0.	57.1	21.4	14.2	7.1	0.	0.
Total							3

The majority of the students had lived in at least 3 different towns.

Table 5. Farthest distance women students have been from home.

Number of miles	Per Cent					
	1-199	200-499	500-999	1000-1499	1500-2500	Total
City	10.7	25.0	14.3	21.4	29.6	100.0
Town	13.2	42.1	18.4	10.5	15.8	100.0
Farm	14.3	71.4	0.	0.	14.3	100.0

These students had all been some distance from home.

Table 6. High school from which women students graduated.

Size of city	Per Cent	
	10,000 & over	200-10,000
City	100.0	0.
Town	5.3	94.7
Farm	7.1	92.9
Total		100.0

The majority of students attended high school in large cities.

Table 7. Grades in which Home Economics was studied.

Grades	Per Cent					
	6	7	8	9	10	11
City	35.7	35.7	57.1	71.4	85.7	71.4
Town	15.8	15.8	57.9	81.6	94.7	89.6
Farm	14.2	14.2	57.1	57.1	64.2	54.2
Total						

Home Economics was studied by a large percentage of the students.

Table 8. Schooling of parents.

	Per Cent											
	Grades						High School					
	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	grad.	Fr.	Soph.	Jr.
Grade	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	grad.	Fr.	Soph.	Jr.
City	0.	0.	0.	7.1	3.6	10.7	0.	7.1	0.	0.	3.6	7.1
Town	0.	5.2	5.2	7.8	21.0	5.2	7.8	10.5	0.	2.6	0.	15.2
Farm	7.1	7.1	0.	7.1	14.3	0.	0.	14.3	0.	0.	0.	7.2
Total	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	grad.	Fr.	Soph.	Jr.
ans.	17.9	17.9	17.9	17.9	17.9	17.9	17.9	17.9	17.9	17.9	17.9	17.9

	Per Cent											
	Grades						High School					
	6	7	8	9	10	11	grad.	Fr.	Soph.	Jr.	Sr.	Total
Grade	6	7	8	9	10	11	grad.	Fr.	Soph.	Jr.	Sr.	Total
City	0.	0.	0.	17.9	7.1	7.2	0.	7.1	3.6	7.1	7.1	28.5
Town	2.6	0.	13.2	8.0	10.5	0.	13.2	2.6	2.6	13.2	5.2	26.3
Farm	0.	7.1	14.3	14.3	7.1	7.2	0.	0.	7.1	7.2	0.	35.7
Total	6	7	8	9	10	11	grad.	Fr.	Soph.	Jr.	Sr.	Total
ans.	28.5	28.5	28.5	28.5	28.5	28.5	28.5	28.5	28.5	28.5	28.5	28.5

Quite a number of the parents had attended college though the majority had only gone through the grades or high school.

Table 9. Continued.

	Per Cent																	
	Brothers						Older						Younger					
Number	1	2	3	4	5	6	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5		
City	35.7	10.7	7.1	7.1	3.5	0.	15.8	14.3	0.	0.	3.5	28.6	3.5	10.7	3.5	0.		
Town	28.9	21.0	15.6	8.6	2.6	21.0	10.5	7.9	2.6	2.6	2.6	21.0	3.1	7.9	2.6	2.6		
Farm	28.6	7.1	7.1	28.6	0.	0.	21.4	14.3	7.1	7.1	0.	28.6	14.3	7.1	0.	0.		

Only a few of the students had step-parents. A large percentage of the students had 2 or more brothers and sisters and a few had more. The percentage of older brothers and sisters was about the same as that of the younger brothers and sisters.

Table 10. Number of children in family.

Number of children	Per Cent										Total	Median
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
City	28.6	10.7	7.2	17.8	21.4	0.	0.	7.1	7.1	0.	100.0	4
Town	7.9	10.5	21.1	21.1	13.2	7.9	5.2	10.5	0.	2.8	100.0	4
Farm	21.4	7.2	14.3	7.1	14.3	0.	14.3	21.4	0.	0.	100.0	4
Total	58.9	28.6	38.5	42.0	47.6	14.3	14.3	28.6	14.3	2.8	100.0	4

The median was four children per family.

Table 11. Number of family living at home.

Number in family	Per Cent											
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Total	Median
City	3.6	0.	10.7	21.4	25.0	17.8	14.4	7.1	0.	0.	100.0	4
Town	2.6	2.6	13.1	18.8	23.6	15.8	7.8	10.5	2.6	2.6	100.0	4
Farm	0.	7.1	28.6	14.3	7.1	14.3	14.3	0.	0.	14.3	100.0	3
Total												4

The average in number of the family members living at home was 4.

Table 12. Parents living.

	Per Cent											
	Father						Mother					
	Yes	No	Total	Yes	No	Total	Yes	No	Total	Yes	No	Total
City	75.0	25.0	100.0	75.0	25.0	100.0	42.9	57.1	100.0	42.9	57.1	100.0
Town	81.6	18.0	100.0	89.4	10.6	100.0	60.5	39.5	100.0	60.5	39.5	100.0
Farm	64.3	35.7	100.0	100.0	0.	100.0	64.3	35.7	100.0	64.3	35.7	100.0

More of the mothers than fathers were living. In only a few more than one-half of the families were the parents living together.

Table 13. Relatives and others living in the home.

	Per Cent					
	Grand- mother	Grand- father	Aunts	Uncles	Other relatives	Roomers Boarders
City	7.1	0.	10.7	10.7	21.4	17.8
Town	15.5	2.6	10.5	5.2	5.2	0.
Farm	7.1	0.	0.	7.1	35.7	21.4
						14.3

Only a small percentage of the families had relatives, roomers and boarders living in the homes.

Table 14. Steady employment of parents outside the home.

	Per Cent					
	Mother			Father		
	Yes	No	Total	Yes	No	Total
City	46.4	53.6	100.0	50.0	50.0	100.0
Town	28.3	73.7	100.0	57.9	42.1	100.0
Farm	7.1	92.9	100.0	14.3	85.7	100.0

Less than one-half of the parents had steady employment outside the home. About as large a percentage of mothers worked outside of the home as fathers.

Table 15. Occupation of parents.

Per Cent					
Father					
	City	Town	Farm	Total	
Farm work	3.5	10.5	64.3	18.7	
Common laborer	7.1	15.8	0.	10.0	
Minister	21.4	7.9	0.	11.2	
Teacher	10.7	0.	0.		
Pullman porter	10.7	0.	0.		
Janitor	7.1	5.2	0.	.5	
Truck driver	7.1	0.	0.		
Railroad laborer	0.	5.2	0.		
Owner of shoe dyeing establishment	3.5	0.	0.		
Mail carrier	0.	2.6	0.		
Miller	0.	2.6	0.		
Hotel work	0.	2.6	0.		
Chef	0.	2.6	0.		
Carpenter	0.	2.6	0.		
Physician	0.	2.6	0.		
Plumber	0.	2.6	0.		
District manager of Masonic Lodge	0.	2.6	0.		

Table 15. Continued.

Per Cent					
Mother					
	City	Town	Farm	Total	
Teacher	3.5	18.4	7.1	22.4	
Cook and maid	7.1	13.1	7.1	20.0	
Laundress	3.5	13.1	0.	15.0	
Seamstress	7.1	7.9	2.6	15.0	
Regular housework	3.5	7.9	7.1	12.5	
Janitress	7.1	2.6	0.	7.5	
Beauty culture	3.5	0.	0.	0.	
Work for American Insurance Company	3.5	0.	0.		
Pipe organist	3.5	0.	0.		

The parents had a rather wide variety of occupations. Ministers and teachers ranked highest for fathers; teachers, cooks and maids ranked highest for mothers.

Table 16. Living while in school.

	Per Cent			
	City	Town	Farm	
Live at home	10.7	0.	0.	
Dormitory	64.3	76.3	85.7	
Occupation of people with whom living				
Retired teacher	10.7	2.6	0.	
Preacher	0.	5.2	0.	
Real estate agent	3.6	0.	0.	
Teacher	0.	2.6	0.	
College president	3.5	0.	0.	
Common laborer	3.5	2.6	0.	
Cafe owner	0.	2.6	0.	
Room and board	0.	0.	0.	
Pay for all of it	85.7	92.1	85.7	
Work for all of it	7.1	0.	0.	
Work for part of it	10.7	15.5	7.1	
Do light housekeeping	3.5	5.2	7.1	
Type of work				
General housework	3.5	15.5	14.3	
Laundry	3.5	5.2	0.	
Cook	3.5	0.	0.	
Cook breakfast and wash dishes	3.5	2.6	0.	
Hours of work				
4 hours per day	3.5	0.	0.	
15 hours per week	0.	5.2	0.	
10 hours per week	3.5	10.5	0.	
8 hours per week	3.5	5.2	0.	

Most of the students lived in the dormitory or roomed in homes and paid for their room and board. A small percentage worked for part or all of their room and board.

Table 17. Home ownership.

	Per Cent		
	Own	Personage	Rent
			Total
City	57.1	10.7	32.2
Town	73.6	5.3	21.1
Farm	71.5	0.	28.5
			100.0

Over one-half of the families owned their homes.

Table 18. Size of farm.

	Per Cent		
	135-174 A.	175-274 A.	275-385 A.
			no answer
			Total
50-134 A.	135-174 A.	175-274 A.	275-385 A.
28.6	21.4	7.1	14.3
			28.6
			100.0

The students from the country lived on farms varying from 50 to 385 acres.

Table 19. Number of rooms in house.

Number of rooms	Per Cent									
	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Median	Total	
City	0.	14.3	17.8	28.6	21.4	14.3	3.6	6	100.0	
Town	2.6	18.4	23.8	28.9	15.8	10.5	0.	6	100.0	
Farm	0.	35.7	21.4	28.6	14.3	0.	0.	3	100.0	
Total								5		

The median number of rooms for the town and city homes was 6 and for the farm homes 5.

Table 20. Kinds of rooms.

	Per Cent		
	City	Town	Farm
Living room	100.0	71.0	85.7
Dining room	75.0	88.8	85.7
Kitchen	100.0	100.0	100.0
Bedrooms			
one		7.1	
two	50.0	44.7	50.0
three	35.7	50.0	42.9
four	14.3	7.1	14.3
Bathrooms			
one	82.2	28.9	7.1
two	3.6		
Halls			
one	25.0	21.0	28.6
two	3.6	2.6	0.
Closets			
one	3.6	7.9	0.
two	10.7	10.5	0.
three	25.0	2.6	0.
Screen porch	7.2	2.6	0.
Sleeping porch	7.2	0.	0.
Pantry	0.	7.1	13.2

A majority of the homes had a dining room and living room and all of the homes had a kitchen. The average number of bedrooms was 3.

Table 21. Bedroom alone or shared.

Per Cent								
	Alone			Shared			Sleeping Porch	
	Yes	No	Total	1	2		with 3 sisters	
City	60.7	39.3	100.0	28.6	7.2		3.5	
Town	44.7	55.3	100.0	36.8	18.4			
Farm	64.3	35.7	100.0	28.6	7.1			

More than one-half of the students had a bedroom alone. The others shared their bedrooms with 1 or 2 people.

Table 22. Equipment and conveniences owned by the family.

	Per Cent			
	City	Town	Farm	Total
Telephone	64.3	15.8	0.	30.0
Running water in house	85.6	39.5	7.1	50.0
Source of water supply				
City system	100.0	76.3	0.	71.3
Private plant	0.	0.	7.1	
Well	0.	23.7	71.4	
Cistern	0.	18.4	7.1	
Spring	0.	0.	7.1	
Artesian well	0.	0.	7.1	
Flush toilet	82.1	36.8	0.	46.3
Lavatory	82.1	34.2	0.	45.0
Kitchen sink	82.1	47.4	0.	51.0
Electricity	92.9	57.9	0.	60.0
Used for				
Lights	71.4	50.0	0.	
Radio	57.1	31.6	0.	
Iron (electric)	71.4	34.2	0.	
Waffle iron	10.7	2.6	0.	
Sweeper	21.4	0.	0.	
Heater	17.8	0.	0.	
Washer	21.4	2.6	0.	
Fan	3.5	0.	0.	
Sewing machine	17.8	0.	0.	
Toaster	3.5	2.6	0.	
Frigidaire	25.0	0.	0.	
Clock	7.1	0.	0.	
Beauty culture	0.	2.6	0.	
Radio	89.3	52.6	14.3	58.7
Philco	60.7	36.8	7.1	
Majestic	17.8	7.9	7.1	
Crosby	3.6	2.6	0.	
Zenith	3.6	2.6	0.	
Silvertone	7.2	0.	0.	
Apex	3.6	2.6	0.	
Kent	3.6	0.	0.	
Stationary bathtub	89.2	39.4	0.	71.3

Telephone, running water and electricity in the home ranked high. Over one-half had flush toilets, lavatories, stationary bathtubs and electricity.

Table 23. Methods and fuels for heating.

Per Cent				
	City	Town	Farm	
Stoves				
One	3.6	26.3	42.9	
Two	14.3	39.4	35.7	
Three	39.3	23.7	14.3	
Four	21.4	7.9	7.1	
Five	7.2	0.	0.	
Six	7.2	0.	0.	
Fireplace	7.2	2.6	0.	
Fuel				
Coal	14.3	7.9	7.1	
Gas	53.5	15.8	0.	
Kerosene	7.2	10.5	21.4	
Wood	46.4	84.2	100.0	
Electricity	10.7	2.6	0.	

The homes were generally heated with stoves, varying from 1 to 6 stoves to a home. Wood and gas were the main fuels used for heating purposes.

Table 24. Fuels used for cooking.

Per Cent				
	City	Town	Farm	
Coal	3.6	0.	0.	
Gas	71.4	15.8	0.	
Kerosene	0.	10.5	21.4	
Wood	21.4	73.7	100.0	
Electricity	7.2	0.	0.	

Wood ranked the highest and gas next as fuels for cooking.

Table 25. Methods of keeping food cold.

	Per Cent		
	City	Town	Farm
Ice box or chest	53.5	42.1	71.4
Ice refrigerator	17.8	50.0	7.1
Mechanical refrigerator	28.6	7.9	0.
Well	0.	0.	14.3
None	0.	0.	7.1

The ice box or chest was the chief means used in the homes to keep food cold.

Table 26. Most important pieces of equipment.

	Per Cent			
	City	Town	Farm	Total
Sewing machine	46.4	60.5	42.9	52.5
Radio	57.1	31.6	14.3	37.5
Piano	28.6	42.1	7.1	31.5
Electric iron	25.0	26.3	0.	21.0
Telephone	25.0	0.	0.	8.8
Hoover	14.3	0.	0.	5.0
Bathtub	10.7	5.2	0.	5.1
Electric washing machine	10.7	2.6	0.	5.0
Frigidaire	10.7	0.	0.	1.37
Ice box	7.1	21.0	0.	15.0
Dishes	7.1	5.2	0.	5.0
Victrola	7.1	2.6	0.	3.7
Lights	3.5	0.	0.	1.37
Waffle iron	3.5	0.	0.	1.37
Typewriter	3.5	0.	0.	1.37
Toaster	3.5	0.	0.	2.5
Phonograph	2.6	0.	0.	1.37
Refrigerator	0.	10.5	0.	5.0
Hot water heater	3.5	0.	0.	1.37
Trunk	3.5	0.	0.	1.37
Irons flat	0.	5.2	0.	3.7

Table 26. Continued.

	City	Town	Farm	Total
Pressure cooker	0.	0.	7.1	1.37
Kitchen sink	0.	5.2	0.	1.37
Cooking utensils	0.	2.6	0.	1.37
Lights	3.5	0.	0.	1.37
No answer	0.	5.2	14.3	5.0

The piano, radio and sewing machine were considered by the students the most important pieces of equipment in their homes.

Table 27. Most important pieces of furniture.

	Per Cent			
	City	Town	Farm	Total
Beds	42.9	34.2	37.5	37.5
Kitchen stove	28.6	39.5	7.1	30.0
Chairs	32.1	21.0	28.5	26.1
Dining table	25.0	18.4	14.3	20.0
Bedroom suite	21.4	31.5	21.4	26.1
Living room suite	21.4	23.6	0.	19.7
Library desk	10.7	5.2	0.	5.2
Dresser	10.7	14.3	0.	8.7
Buffet	3.5	5.2	0.	3.7
Divan	0.	2.6	14.3	3.7
Cedar chest	3.5	0.	0.	1.2
Book case	3.5	0.	0.	1.2
Rugs	3.5	0.	0.	1.2
China closet	7.1	7.9	0.	5.1
Kitchen cabinet	7.1	15.8	7.1	10.0
No answer	7.1	2.6	14.3	5.1

The beds, kitchen stove and chairs were considered by the students the most important pieces of furniture.

Table 28. The sewing machine.

	Per Cent			
	City	Town	Farm	Total
Sewing machine	92.8	89.5	92.8	91.1
Kind				
Singer	75.0	52.8	92.8	67.5
White	7.1	31.5	0.	17.5
Minnesota	3.5	2.6	0.	2.5
Electric rotary	3.5	0.	0.	1.2
Vertical feed	3.5	0.	0.	1.2
Unique	0.	2.6	0.	1.2
Number of years				
1-5	14.3	7.9	21.4	
6-10	14.3	13.1	21.4	
11-14	0.	18.4	7.1	
15-19	10.7	18.4	21.4	
20-24	32.1	23.7	21.4	
25-30	21.4	5.2	7.1	

Most of the homes had sewing machines. Approximately three-fourths of them were Singer machines. Fifteen to 19 years was the median number of years that there had been a sewing machine in the home.

Table 29. Clothing construction.

	Per Cent		
	City	Town	Farm
Made at home	50.0	75.0	25.0
Bought ready made	32.1	7.9	21.4
Both made at home and bought			
ready made	17.8	34.2	28.4
Made by dressmaker	0.	2.6	0.

One-half of the clothing was made in the home.

Table 30. The piano.

	Per Cent			
	City	Town	Farm	Total
Piano	69.2	55.3	28.5	53.7
Who plays it				
Father	14.3	5.2	7.1	
Mother	25.0	13.1	7.1	
Sister	25.0	31.5	7.1	
Brother	7.1	5.2	7.1	
Self	35.7	47.4	14.3	
No one	3.5	0.	0.	

Over one-half of the homes owned a piano.

Table 31. Gardening and preserving.

	Per Cent			
	Yes	No		Total
Garden				
City	42.8	57.2		100.0
Town	84.2	15.8		100.0
Farm	100.0	0.		100.0
Preserve for future use				
City	53.5	46.5		100.0
Town	86.9	13.1		100.0
Farm	100.0	0.		100.0

Methods of preserving

	Canning	Preserves	Drying	Storing
City	46.4	10.7	7.1	3.6
Town	68.4	7.9	10.5	2.6
Farm	92.8	14.3	42.9	21.4

A large majority of farm and town homes had their own gardens and canned or stored food for winter use.

Table 32. Home duties.

	Per Cent			
	City	Town	Farm	Total
Cooking	50.0	42.1	71.4	50.0
Ironing	39.3	52.6	64.3	50.0
Making beds	32.1	50.0	18.4	43.7
Washing dishes	46.4	47.4	5.2	41.2
Sewing	14.3	44.6	42.9	33.7
Washing	17.6	36.8	57.1	33.7
General housework	25.0	3.5	10.7	13.1
Sweeping	3.5	13.1	0.	7.5
Housecleaning	7.1	5.2	7.1	6.3
Cooking breakfast	7.1	0.	0.	2.5
Going to the grocery store	0.	2.6	0.	1.2
Going to town	0.	2.6	0.	1.2
Caring for flowers	0.	2.6	0.	1.2

Cooking, washing dishes and ironing ranked the highest among home duties performed by the students.

Table 33. The automobile.

	Per Cent			
	City	Town	Farm	Total
Automobile	53.5	31.5	71.4	46.2
Kind				
Plymouth	3.5	0.	0.	
Pontiac	7.1	0.	0.	
Chevrolet	0.	13.1	21.4	
Dodge	3.5	0.	7.1	
Ford	3.5	13.1	35.7	
Buick	14.3	5.2	0.	
Oldsmobile	3.5	0.	0.	
No answer	28.6	0.	0.	
Model				
1927	3.5	0.	7.1	
1929	3.5	5.2	21.4	
1930	3.5	0.	0.	
1933	3.5	2.6	0.	
1934	0.	7.9	7.1	
1935	7.1	5.2	7.1	
1936	7.1	5.2	7.1	
1937	14.3	7.9	7.1	
Allowed to use it	28.6	13.1	35.7	
Whenever desired	10.7	7.9	7.1	
Occasionally	17.8	10.5	28.5	
Person who pays for gas				
Father	21.0	13.1	28.5	
Mother	3.5	0.	7.1	
Sister	7.1	0.	7.1	
Uncle	0.	2.6	0.	
Church	3.5	0.	0.	
Self	3.5	0.	0.	

About one-half of the families owned automobiles.

Table 34. Sources of family income.

	Per Cent			
	City	Town	Farm	
Money	100.0	94.9	21.4	
Farm and garden products	0.	28.9	92.8	
Oil lease	0.	2.6	0.	

Money was the main source of family income with farm and garden products next.

Table 35. Estimate of family income.

	Per Cent						
	1-249	250-349	350-499	500-999	1000-1499	over 1500	Don't know
City	3.5	10.7	28.6	32.1	14.3	10.7	0.
Town	2.6	18.4	28.9	36.8	0.	0.	10.5
Farm	0.	28.5	0.	7.1	0.	0.	64.3

The median income was \$500 or slightly below.

Table 36. Accounts and budgets.

Per Cent					
	Yes	No	No. ans.	Total	
Accounts					
City	71.4	7.1	21.5		100.0
Town	60.5	28.9	10.6		100.0
Farm	71.4	21.4	7.2		100.0
Budgets					
City	57.1	14.3	28.6		100.0
Town	28.9	21.1	50.0		100.0
Farm	21.4	57.2	21.4		100.0
Women students who help in planning budgets					
City	64.3	36.7	0.		100.0
Town	39.5	52.6	7.9		100.0
Farm	21.4	35.7	42.9		100.0

A little over one-half of the families kept accounts and less than one-half made budgets. Less than one-half of the students helped in planning the family budget.

Table 37. Began helping with budget.

Per Cent										
Age	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	No ans.
City	7.2	3.5	3.5	7.2	17.8	3.5	0.	3.5		17.8
Town	0.	2.6	2.6	7.9	10.5	7.9	2.6	0.		5.2
Farm	7.1	0.	0.	0.	0.	7.1	7.1	0.		78.6

The average age that the students began helping with the family budget was 14 years.

Table 38. Earning spending money.

	Per Cent		
	Yes	No	Sometimes
City	32.1	17.8	14.3
Town	44.6	13.2	21.0
Farm	28.5	28.5	21.4

About one-third of the students earned their own spending money and a few earned it sometimes.

Table 39. Methods of earning money.

	Per Cent		
	City	Town	Farm
Sewing	7.2	15.8	21.4
House work	39.3	31.6	35.7
Caring for children	28.6	13.2	28.5
Beauty culture	14.3	7.9	7.1
Work at pressing shop	3.6	0.	0.
Teaching	0.	2.6	7.1
Working on farm	0.	0.	7.1

Doing housework and caring for children were the chief methods the students had of earning spending money.

Table 40. Spending of own money.

Per Cent					
	City		Town		Farm
Hose	7.2		10.5		14.3
Toilet articles	14.3		15.8		35.7
Nicknacks	3.5		2.6		0.
Shows	3.5		0.		0.
Clothing	21.4		18.4		21.4
Pleasure	17.4		10.5		14.3
School tuition	14.3		15.8		14.3
Shoes	3.5		0.		0.
Insurance	3.5		0.		0.
Family needs	10.7		2.6		14.3
Savings	3.5		0.		0.
Hair	0.		2.6		0.

The students spent their own money mainly for clothing, toilet articles and pleasure.

Table 41. High school organizations.

	Per Cent		
	City	Town	Farm
Girl Reserves			
Member	50.0	23.7	7.1
Officer	32.1	2.6	0.
Home Economics Club			
Member	17.6	47.4	35.7
Officer	21.4	31.6	14.2
Dramatic Club			
Member	42.8	39.5	42.9
Officer	14.3	10.5	0.
Girl Athletic Association			
Member	21.4	13.2	14.3
Officer	10.7	5.3	0.
Literary Club			
Member	14.3	21.0	7.1
Officer	7.2	2.6	0.
Glee Club			
Member	32.1	31.6	28.5
Officer	3.6	5.3	0.
Chorus			
Member	28.6	55.3	57.1
Officer	10.7	7.9	7.1
Pep Club			
Member	46.4	50.0	50.0
Officer	10.7	18.4	7.1
Out-of-School Organizations			
4-H Club		18.4	35.7
Girl Scouts	7.2	5.2	
Campfire	14.3		
Reading or Literary Club	3.6	5.2	
Music Club	7.2	13.2	14.3
Sewing Club	7.2	13.2	21.4
Lodge Club	10.7	5.3	7.1
Canning Club		21.0	21.4
Social Clubs			
Arora Johnson Sub Debs	3.6		
Sub Sorority Social Set	3.6		
The Joyeas	3.6		

Quite a number of the students belonged to a number of organizations and many were officers. A small percentage of them belonged to out-of-school organizations.

Table 42. College organizations.

	Per Cent			
	City	Town	Farm	
Y.W.C.A.				
Member	60.7	55.3	28.5	
Officer	10.7	5.3	0.	
Home Economics Club				
Member	35.7	44.6	42.9	
Officer	14.3	5.3	0.	
Dramatic Club				
Member	35.7	18.4	2.6	
Officer	7.2	5.3	2.6	
Pep Club				
Member	32.1	39.4	21.4	
Officer	10.7	0.	0.	
Literary Club Member	3.6	2.6	0.	
Glee Club Member	14.3	15.8	0.	
Chorus Member	25.0	34.2	21.4	
Woman's Athletic Assoc.				
Member	14.3	10.5	0.	
Officer	3.6	0.	0.	
Other clubs				
Pyramids	3.6	5.3	0.	
The Lucky Galves	3.6	0.	0.	
Charity Organizations	3.6	0.	0.	
The Neighborhood Club	3.6	0.	0.	
Margaret Ann Robertson	3.6	0.	0.	
Social Set	3.6	0.	0.	
Clover Bridge Club	3.6	0.	0.	
Phyllis Wheatly	3.6	0.	0.	
Willing Workers	0.	5.3	0.	

The students continued in college their interest in organizations, for many belonged to college organizations.

Table 43. Church membership and activities.

	Per Cent			
	City	Town	Farm	
Denomination				
Methodist	60.7	50.0	50.0	
Baptist	17.8	36.8	42.9	
African Methodist	7.2	7.9	7.2	
Church of God	3.6	0.	7.1	
Catholics	3.6	2.6	0.	
Holiness	0.	2.6	0.	
Attend regularly				
Sunday School	53.5	84.3	78.6	
Church	75.0	76.3	85.7	
Distance from church				
2-3 blocks	3.6	36.8	14.3	
4-8 blocks	50.0	42.1	14.3	
9-12 blocks	17.8	7.9	14.3	
Same block	14.3	15.8	0.	
2½ miles	3.6	2.6	7.1	
6 miles	3.6	0.	14.3	
Special responsibility at				
Sunday School and Church				
Member of usher board	7.2	0.	0.	
Sec. of Sunday School class	17.8	10.6	7.1	
Sec. of Sunday School	3.6	7.9	7.1	
Sunday School teacher	17.8	50.0	35.7	
Pianist for Sunday School	7.2	10.6	0.	
Pianist for Church	0.	7.9	0.	
Treasurer for Sunday School	3.6	0.	7.1	
Membership and attendance				
Wesley League	3.6	2.6	0.	
Epworth League				
Member	25.0	18.4	7.9	
Attend regularly	21.4	10.6	0.	
Baptist Young				
Member	10.7	26.3	14.3	
Attend regularly	0.	5.2	0.	
People Union				
Member	0.	5.2	14.3	
Attend regularly	0.	2.6	0.	

Table 43. Continued.

	City	Town	Farm
Christian Endeavor			
Member	7.2	5.2	0.
Attend regularly	0.	2.6	0.
Sunday School			
Member	46.4	31.2	50.0
Attend regularly	10.7	26.3	14.3
Queen Esther			
Member	57.1	31.6	35.7
Attend regularly	10.7	28.9	21.4
Choir			
Member	15.5	47.4	57.1
Attend regularly	10.7	10.5	7.1
Usher board			
Member	10.7	2.6	7.1
Offices			
President of Epworth League	7.2	2.6	0.
Secretary of Epworth League	10.7	2.6	0.
2nd Vice Pres. of Epworth League	3.6	2.6	0.
Choir office	3.6	0.	0.
Queen Esther president	0.	7.9	0.
Queen Esther treasurer	3.6	0.	0.
Queen Esther secretary	0.	5.3	7.1
Pianist for Christian Endeavor	0.	3.6	0.
B. Y. P. U. secretary	0.	3.6	7.1

Most of the students belonged to the Methodist or Baptist church and attended fairly regularly. Most of them lived fairly close to the church they attended and had various responsibilities in Sunday School and church services.

Table 44. Books.

	Per Cent			
	City	Town	Farm	
Library card	60.7	2.6	0.	
Use library card				
Once a week	28.6	0.	0.	
Once a month	0.	0.	0.	
Seldom	28.6	2.6	0.	
Books read in the last year in addition to required ones				
1-4 books	14.3	31.5	7.1	
5-14 books	28.6	36.8	28.5	
15-24 books	10.7	2.6	7.1	
25 and over	14.3	2.6	0.	

All of the students were required to have a college library card but few of them had public library cards. The majority of them did not read many books other than the ones required.

Table 45. Favorite books.

American Negro	Magnificent Obsession
Ann Vickers	Marjorie
Anthony Adverse	Master of the Vineyard
A Senior in College	Nedra
Bad Girl	Old Rose and Silver
Ben Hur	Riders of the Purple Sage
Better Education	Robinson Crusoe
Bible	Riches
Catherine the Great	Scarlet Sister Mary
Challenge of Liberty	Shakespeares Works
Chinaberry Tree	Shepherd of the Hills
David Copperfield	Straight and Crooked Thinking
Dombey and Son	Sweet Man
Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde	Tale of Two Cities
Dunbar's Poetry	The Art of Being a Woman
End of the Trail	The Gold Shoe
Father of Texas	The Harmony of the Gospels
Jean Val Jean	The Horse Shoe
Good Earth	The Life of Dunbar
Gone with the Wind	The Light that Failed
Green Pastures	The Little Minister
Green Lights	The Man Nobody Knows
Gulf Stream	The Man Without a Country
Heart Throbs	The Ninth Guest
House of Seven Gables	The Pilgrims Progress
How to Win Friends and Influence People	The Telegraph Boy
It Can't Happen Here	Three Musketeers
Imitation of Life	Trail of the Lonesome Pine
K.	Uncle Tom's Cabin
Lady of the Lake	Up from Slavery
Lavender and Old Lace	Vindication
Les Miserables	What Shall I do With my Life
Little Colonel	When a Man's a Man
Macbeth	Who's Who in Colored America

Fiction had first place in their list of favorite books.

Table 46. Magazines read regularly.

	Per Cent			
	City	Town	Farm	
Adult fiction				
American	3.6	0.	0.	
Cosmopolitan	14.3	0.	0.	
Liberty	7.2	0.	0.	
Red Book	3.6	2.6	0.	
Agriculture				
Cappers Farmer	0.	0.	7.1	
Country Gentleman	0.	0.	7.1	
Farmers Ranch	0.	0.	7.1	
Progressive Farmer	0.	0.	7.1	
Southern Agriculturist	0.	0.	7.1	
Current Events				
Readers Digest	7.2	0.	0.	
Literary Digest	3.6	2.6	0.	
Education				
Instructor	0.	7.9	0.	
Pathfinder	0.	2.6	0.	
Home and woman's arts				
American Home	3.6	2.6	7.1	
Beauty Culture	3.6	0.	0.	
Better Homes and Gardens	3.6	5.3	0.	
Forecast	3.6	0.	0.	
Good Housekeeping	39.3	26.3	21.4	
Home Arts	3.6	0.	0.	
Holland	3.6	0.	0.	
Ladies Home Journal	7.2	5.2	14.3	
McCalls	7.2	5.2	14.3	
Pictorial Review	10.7	13.2	14.3	
Woman's Home Companion	25.0	0.	7.1	
Woman's World	3.6	0.	0.	
Literary and political periodicals				
Forum	0.	2.6	0.	
Saturday Evening Post	7.2	0.	0.	

Table 46. Continued.

	%	%	%
	City	Town	Farm
Negro			
Crisis	3.6	2.6	0.
Opportunity	0.	5.3	0.
Picture magazines			
Life	50.0	34.2	21.4
Look	7.2	10.5	7.1
Time	25.0	18.4	7.1
Religion			
Christian Advocate	0.	2.6	0.
Christian Herald	0.	2.6	0.
Science			
Popular Science	3.6	0.	0.

Few magazines were read regularly by the students. Good Housekeeping, Home Companion and Pictorial Review ranked highest in the list.

Table 47. Favorite magazines.

	Per Cent		
	%	%	%
	City	Town	Farm
Good Housekeeping	35.7	44.6	42.9
Life	39.5	34.2	35.7
Pictorial Review	35.7	23.7	21.4
Woman's Home Companion	17.8	10.5	21.4
Look	14.3	13.2	7.1

The favorite magazines were Life and Good Housekeeping.

Table 48. Magazines taken by family.

Per Cent				
	City	Town	Farm	
Home Companion	10.7	10.5	21.4	
Pictorial Review	14.3	18.4	0.	
Good Housekeeping	10.7	0.	14.3	
Better Home and Gardens	7.2	10.5	14.3	
Literary Digest	10.7	10.5	0.	
Ladies Home Journal	7.2	13.1	0.	
Saturday Evening Post	10.7	14.3	0.	
Southern Agriculture	0.	0.	14.3	
Unity	10.7	0.	0.	
Household	10.7	0.	0.	
American Home	3.6	0.	7.1	
Beauty Culture	7.2	0.	0.	
Popular Science	3.6	0.	0.	
Physical Culture	3.6	5.2	0.	
Normal Instructor	3.6	0.	0.	
Pathfinder	3.6	5.2	0.	
Liberty	7.2	5.2	0.	
Readers Digest	7.2	0.	0.	
Christian Herald	0.	0.	7.1	
Cappers Farmer	0.	0.	7.1	
Country Gentleman	0.	0.	7.1	

Woman's Home Companion and Pictorial Review ranked the highest among the magazines taken by the family.

Table 49. Families taking newspapers.

Per Cent			
	City	Town	Farm
Daily	67.8	71.0	57.1
Weekly	32.1	38.6	28.6

Over one-half of the families took a daily newspaper and about one-third of them a weekly.

Table 50. Favorite radio programs.

Alka Seltzer	Major Bowes
Amos and Andy	Ma Perkins
Betty and Bob	Moon River Programs
Carnation Contented Hour	Music Box
Colored Orchestra	Myrt and Marge
First Nighter	News Cast
Fred Allen	One Man's Family
Gospel Singers	Show Boat
Joe Louis Fights	Stories
Judy and Jane	Uncle Ezra
Lucky Strike Parade	Wayne King

Musical and variety programs were the favorite radio programs.

Table 51. Leisure time.

Per Cent								
Hours	1	2	3	4	5	No ans.	Median	
City	7.2	10.7	17.8	14.3	17.8	26.3	3	
Town	2.6	31.6	13.1	10.5	15.8	0.	3	
Farm	0.	28.5	7.1	0.	0.	64.3	2	
Total	---	---	---	---	---	---	3	

The median amount of leisure time for the students was 3 hours per day.

Table 52. Ways of spending leisure time.

	Per Cent		
	City	Town	Farm
Listening to radio	67.8	68.4	7.1
Attending movies	75.0	78.8	64.3
Attending plays	32.1	44.6	0.
Studying	57.1	71.0	85.7
Playing cards	26.3	36.7	71.1
Loafing	10.7	5.3	0.
Singing	36.7	39.5	42.9
Playing musical instruments	21.4	44.6	35.7
Hiking	53.5	21.0	28.6
Skating	35.7	7.9	0.
Basket ball	39.3	31.6	35.7
Tennis	85.7	42.1	28.6
Parties	50.0	47.4	57.1
Dancing	75.0	47.4	42.9
Dates	39.3	39.4	14.3
Reading	67.8	76.2	57.1
Riding bicycle	28.6	13.2	0.
Motoring	42.8	23.7	42.9
Visiting	39.3	55.3	42.9
Pioneering	57.1	47.4	35.7
Fishing	25.0	23.7	50.0
Swimming	46.4	15.8	14.3
Cooking	3.6	0.	0.
Practicing beauty work	3.6	0.	0.
Like to be alone	3.6	0.	0.
Attending girls camp	3.6	0.	0.

Listening to the radio and attending movies were listed as the chief ways of spending leisure time.

Table 53. Family participation in social life.

	Per Cent			
	City	Town	Farm	
Picnics	75.0	65.8	78.6	
Trips	60.7	73.8	78.6	
Attending movies	60.7	71.0	50.0	
Reading	39.3	60.5	78.6	
Family "Home Nights"	67.9	71.0	50.0	
Attending church	78.6	86.9	85.7	
Parties, dinners and receptions	67.9	50.0	28.6	

In a little over one-half of the families the members participated as a group in social activities.

Table 54. Hours of sleep per day.

Hours	Per Cent				
	7	8	9	Median	Total
City	17.8	57.2	25.0	8	100.0
Town	7.9	68.4	23.7	8	100.0
Farm	0.	78.6	21.4	8	100.0
Total				8	

The median number of hours of sleep per day for each student was 8.

Table 55. Absence from school since September 1, 1936 because of illness.

	Per Cent			
	City	Town	Farm	
Number of days				
None	17.8	34.2	0.	
1 day	7.2	7.9	0.	
3 days	3.6	13.2	0.	
4 days	14.3	0.	0.	
5 days	7.2	0.	0.	
8 days	17.8	10.5	21.4	
15 days	10.7	10.5	14.3	
1 semester	7.2	5.2	0.	
All at one time				
Yes	17.8	10.5	21.4	
No	39.3	2.6	7.1	
No answer	3.6	2.6	0.	
Longest time absent because of illness				
1 day	3.5	0.	0.	
2 days	7.1	0.	0.	
3 days	14.3	2.6	0.	
4 days	7.1	0.	0.	
8 days	3.6	0.	0.	
1 week	3.6	2.6	14.3	
10 days	3.6	0.	0.	
1 semester	0.	2.6	0.	
3 weeks	0.	2.6	7.1	
Confined to bed				
Yes	35.7	13.2	28.5	
No	7.1	2.6	0.	
No answer	3.5	0.	0.	

Only a very small percentage of the students had been absent from school recently because of severe illness.

Table 56. Types of illness.

Per Cent				
	City	Town	Farm	
Skin rash	3.6	0.	0.	
Tonsils removed	3.6	0.	0.	
Sore throat	3.6	0.	0.	
Colds	21.4	13.2	0.	
Tonsillitis	3.6	2.6	7.1	
Flu	7.1	15.8	7.1	
Mumps	3.6	0.	0.	
Toothache	3.6	2.6	0.	
Upset stomach	3.6	0.	0.	
Ptomaine poisoning	0.	10.5	0.	
Injured in wreck	0.	2.6	0.	
Knee trouble	0.	2.6	0.	
Side ache	0.	2.6	0.	
Hit over eye	0.	0.	7.1	
Appendicitis	0.	0.	7.1	

The types of illness were quite varied.

Table 57. Personal estimate of condition of health.

Per Cent				
	City	Town	Farm	
Good health				
Yes	78.6	89.5	85.7	
No	7.2	0.	14.3	
No answer	14.2	10.5	0.	
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	

A large percentage of the students rated themselves as having good health.

Table 58. Physical condition and examinations.

Per Cent			
	City	Town	Farm
Thorough examination by physician			
Yes	89.3	100.0	100.0
No	10.7	0.	0.
When			
September, 1937	78.6	89.5	92.8
April, 1937	0.	2.6	0.
January, 1938	0.	2.6	0.
February, 1938	3.6	2.6	0.
No answer	17.8	2.6	7.2
Teeth examined by a dentist			
Yes	67.8	89.5	35.7
No	17.8	10.5	64.3
No answer	14.4	0.	0.
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
When			
At a regular time			
Yes	35.5	18.4	0.
No	25.0	2.6	64.3
No answer	3.5	2.6	35.7
Once a year			
Yes	28.6	7.9	0.
Only when they hurt	3.5	7.9	0.
Twice a year	14.3	18.4	35.7
Never	0.	0.	7.1
Trouble with eyes			
Yes	46.4	63.2	57.1
No	32.1	34.2	35.7
Seldom	14.3	2.6	7.1
Eyes examined by oculist			
Yes	46.5	36.8	14.3
No	53.5	63.2	85.7
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
Wear glasses			
Yes	35.7	36.8	7.1
No	64.3	63.2	92.9
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

Table 58. Continued.

	Per Cent		
	City	Town	Farm
Trouble with ears			
Yes	14.3	15.8	0.
No	85.7	84.2	100.0
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
Ears examined by a physician			
Yes	32.1	7.9	21.4
No	46.4	86.9	78.6
No answer	21.5	5.2	0.
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
Ears examined by a specialist			
Yes	14.3	5.3	0.
No	85.7	94.7	100.0
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
Any physical defects			
Yes	25.0	10.5	14.3
No	32.1	86.9	85.7
No answer	42.9	2.6	0.
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
What defects			
Weak eyes	14.3	7.9	7.1
Crippled leg	0.	2.6	0.
Poor hearing	0.	2.6	0.
Weak stomach	3.5	0.	0.
Bad teeth	7.1	0.	0.
Sway back	3.5	0.	0.
Diseased tonsils	0.	0.	7.1

Each student had a complete physical examination each year when she entered school.

Table 59. Chosen vocation.

	Per Cent			
	City	Town	Farm	
Teacher	57.1	79.3	78.5	
Beauty culturist	7.1	5.3	0.	
Caterer	3.6	0.	0.	
Physician	3.6	0.	0.	
Social worker	3.6	0.	14.3	
Interior decorator	3.6	0.	0.	
Librarian	3.6	2.6	0.	

Teaching ranked highest as future vocation chosen by the students.

SUMMARY

The women students enrolled at Samuel Huston College during 1937-38 were chiefly from Texas cities and larger towns. All had lived in a number of towns and cities and had been some distance from home. They had attended large high schools and most of them had studied home economics in high school.

On the whole, the parents of the students were quite well educated for Negroes. Nearly one-half of the fathers, and one-third of the mothers from the cities had been graduated from college. A few of the parents of the students from the towns and farms had been graduated from college. In all three groups a number had attended college for a while.

The families from which the students came were not large. The median was four children per family. Only a small percentage had relatives, roomers or boarders living in the home.

A wide variety of occupations was followed by the fathers. Teachers and ministers ranked highest. In all instances the family income was not high. However, over one-half of the families owned their homes.

The homes generally had five or six rooms. A large

percentage of the homes had telephones, running water, and electricity in them. About one-half had flush toilets, lavatories and stationary bath tubs. Most of the homes had a dining room and living room and all had a kitchen. The chief fuels used for cooking and heating were gas and wood. The homes were heated with stoves from one to six in number. Most of the homes had an ice chest or refrigerator, and nearly every home had a sewing machine. A majority had a radio and a piano. However less than half of the families had an automobile.

One-half of the families kept household accounts and made budgets for the use of their income.

A majority of the mothers of the students were employed away from home. Often the mother could get work when the father could not. In many instances the mother was the chief support of the family. Teaching and cooking were the chief occupations of the mothers working away from home.

Family recreation had an important place in a number of the families.

Most of the students lived in the dormitory or roomed in homes and paid board and room while in school. Only a few worked for board and room.

A majority of the students belonged to both high school and college organizations and a number held offices.

Practically all of the students were members of a church and a majority had leadership responsibilities.

The students had many kinds of home responsibilities and participated in all types of home activities.

About one-half of the students earned their spending money. This was done chiefly by doing housework of some type.

Leisure time was not well used by the students. Few magazines and newspapers were read regularly by them. Books were read by a majority of the students only when required.

The students were in a good state of health and there were few absences from school because of severe illness. Regular physical and dental examinations required and conducted by the college no doubt were important contributing factors.

Teaching was the future vocation listed by nearly all of the girls.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendations for the home economics program at Samuel Huston College are:

The home economics curriculum and the teaching of its courses should be planned and carried on more in relation

to the background and the actual present and future needs of the students.

All of the home economics courses should help train for better use of leisure time. The students should be encouraged and urged to read more and better magazines and books. The advantages of good radio programs and entertainments should be emphasized.

Some training should be provided by the home economics courses for students who earn their money by working in homes.

More instruction should be given on family relationships, personal and family finances, the use of time and energy, and standards in performing various home activities.

Training for leadership should be made a definite part of the home economics program.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

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APPENDIX

THE CHECKING LIST

A study is being made with the women students of Samuel Huston College to secure information to be used in reorganizing the home economics curriculum of this college. Your help will be greatly appreciated.

Please place in the blanks the suitable answers as:

- | | |
|---------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. Cross (X) | 3. Word (yes) (no) (other term) |
| 2. Number (3) | 4. Phrase or brief statement |

PART I

1. Age _____
2. Year in college _____
3. Place of dwelling _____
 - (a) Town _____
 - (b) Farm _____; distance from town _____
4. Home address _____
5. Towns in which you have lived _____
6. Farthest distance you have ever been from home
 - (a) Place _____
 - (b) Approximate number of miles _____
7. High school from which you were graduated _____
8. Grades in which you studied home economics

5th _____	8th _____	11th _____
6th _____	9th _____	12th _____
7th _____	10th _____	

9. How far did your parents go in school?
 Father grade _____ Mother grade _____
 year of high school _____ year of high school _____
 year of college _____ year of college _____
10. How many are there in your family?
 (a) _____ Mother or _____ (b) _____ Father or _____
 _____ Stepmother _____ Stepfather _____
 (c) _____ Sisters (give number) Older _____ Younger _____
 (d) _____ Brothers (give number) Older _____ Younger _____
11. Number of your family living at home _____
12. Is your father living? _____
 Is your mother living? _____
13. Do your parents live together? _____ (Do not
 answer if one is not living)
14. Do you have one or more relatives other than the im-
 mediate family living in the home? Check and give
 number.
 Grandmother _____ Uncle _____
 Grandfather _____ Cousins _____
 Aunts _____ Others _____
15. Do you have boarders in your home? _____ Number _____
 Do you have roomers? _____ Number _____
16. Do your parents have steady employment outside the
 home? Mother _____ Father _____
17. What is the occupation of your father when he has
 work? _____
18. What is the occupation of your mother when she has
 work outside the home? _____
19. Do you live at home? _____ If not, with whom do you
 live? Relative _____ Friend _____
 Others (state whom) _____
20. Do you board or do light housekeeping? _____
21. Do you pay for your room and board? _____

22. Do you work for your room and board? _____ If so, what do you do to earn these? _____; how many hours per week are you required to work for these? _____
23. If you do not live at home, give occupation of people with whom you live _____

PART II

1. Does your family own your home? _____ Rent? _____
2. If you live on a farm, what is its size? _____ acres.
3. Does your family own your farm? _____ Rent? _____
4. How many rooms do you have in your house? _____
5. How many of the following rooms are there in your house?

living rooms _____	dining rooms _____
pantry _____	bedrooms _____
halls _____	closets _____
kitchen _____	bathrooms _____
other _____	
6. Do you have a bedroom of your own? _____ If not, how many share your sleeping room? _____
7. Does your house have an inside flush toilet? _____ a lavatory? _____ a kitchen sink? _____
8. What is the source of your water supply? city system _____ private plant _____ well _____ cistern _____ other _____
9. Do you have running water in your house? _____
10. Does your house have a stationary bath tub? _____
11. Do you have electricity in your house? _____
12. For what do you use electricity? _____

13. Do you heat your house by stove? _____ if so, how many? _____; by fire place? _____ if so, how many? _____; by furnace? _____.
14. What type of fuel do you use for heating?
 coal _____ gas _____ kerosene _____
 wood _____ electricity _____
 other _____
15. What type of fuel do you use for cooking?
 coal _____ gas _____ kerosene _____
 wood _____ electricity _____
 other _____
16. What means do you have for keeping food cool?
 ice box or chest _____ basement _____
 ice refrigerator _____ cellar _____
 mechanical refrigerator _____ well _____
 other _____ none _____
17. Do you have a sewing machine? _____ What kind? _____
18. How long have you had it? _____
19. Is most of the clothing of your family made at home or bought ready-made? _____
20. What do you consider the most important pieces of equipment in your home?

21. What do you consider the most important pieces of furniture in your home?

22. Do you have a vegetable garden? _____ Does your family preserve vegetables and fruit for winter use? _____
 How (as can, dry, store, raw, etc.)? _____
23. Do you have a telephone in your house? _____
24. Does your family own an automobile? _____ What kind? _____ What year model? _____

25. Are you allowed to use it? _____
26. How often are you allowed to use it?
 Whenever you please _____
 Occasionally when you please _____
 Week ends _____
 Only when your parents are along _____
 Other _____
27. Who pays for the gas? _____
28. Does your family have a radio? _____ What kind? _____
29. Does your family have a piano? _____ Who in your family plays it? _____

PART III

1. What are the sources of your family income?
 Money _____
 Farm and garden products _____
 Gifts other than money _____
 Other _____
2. Give an estimate of your family's annual money income

3. Does your family keep accounts? _____
4. Does your family make a budget? _____
5. Do you help in planning the family budget? _____
 If so, at what age did you begin helping? _____
6. Do you earn your own spending money? _____
7. How do you earn your money? (list others)
 Sewing _____
 Doing house work _____
 Caring for children _____
 "Beauty culture" _____
8. For what do you spend the money you earn? _____

9. What are your regularly assigned home duties or tasks, such as washing, ironing, washing dishes, making beds, sewing, cooking, etc.?

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

10. How do these duties differ in the summer and winter?

PART IV

1. Organizations of which you have been or are a member. Check twice those of which you have been or are an officer.

High School Organizations (list others)

Girl Reserves _____
 Home Economics Club _____
 Dramatics Club _____
 Girl's Athletic Assoc. _____
 Literary Club _____
 Glee Club _____
 Chorus _____
 Pep Club _____
 Social Clubs (give names) _____

 Others _____

College Organizations (list others)

Y. W. C. A. _____
 Home Economics Club _____
 Dramatics Club _____
 Woman's Athletic Assoc. _____
 Literary Club _____
 Glee Club _____
 Chorus _____
 Pep Club _____
 Sorority (give name) _____

 Others _____

Out-of-school organizations (not church or religious) (list others)

4-H Club _____
 Girl Scouts _____
 Campfire _____
 Reading or literary Club _____

Social Clubs (give names)

Others _____

Music Club _____
Sewing Club _____
Lodge Club _____
Canning Club _____

2. Do you belong to a church? _____
3. What denomination? _____
4. Do you attend these services regularly?
Sunday School _____
Church services _____
5. How far do you live from church? _____
6. Do you have any special responsibility at Sunday School and Church? _____ If so, what _____
7. Church or religious organizations of which you have been or are a member. Check twice if you attend regularly. (list others)
- | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| Wesley League _____ | Sunday School _____ |
| Epworth League _____ | Queen Esther Circle _____ |
| Baptist Young _____ | Standard Bearers _____ |
| Peoples Union _____ | Choir _____ |
| Christian Endeavor _____ | Others _____ |
8. Do you hold any office in any of these? _____
If so, what ones _____
9. Do you have a city library card? _____ How often do you use the city library?
Once a week _____
Once a month _____
Seldom _____
10. How many books have you read of your own free choice during the last twelve months? _____
11. List your four favorite books

12. What magazines do you read regularly? _____

13. List your favorite magazines _____

14. What magazines does your family "take"? _____

15. Does your family "take" a newspaper?

daily _____

weekly _____

16. What are your favorite radio programs? _____

17. Approximately how many hours of leisure (time to do as you please) do you have during the day? _____

18. Check your favorite ways of spending your leisure time. (list others)

Listening to the radio _____

Attending movies _____

Attending plays _____

Studying _____

Playing cards _____

Loafing _____

Singing _____

Playing musical instruments _____

Hiking _____

Skating _____

Basket ball _____

Tennis _____

Dancing _____

Dates _____

Reading _____

Riding bicycle _____

Motoring _____

Visiting _____

Picnicing _____

Fishing _____

Swimming _____

Parties _____

19. Do you sometimes participate with your family in

Picnics _____ Attending church _____

Trips _____ Parties, dinners, recep-

Attending movies _____ tions, etc. _____

Reading _____

Family "home nights" _____

PART V

1. How many hours of sleep do you average per day? _____
2. How much school have you missed since Sept. 1, 1936 because of illness? _____ days. Was this all at one time? _____ If not, what was the number of times absent for illness? _____
3. Longest time out because of illness? _____ Were you sick enough to be in bed any of the time? _____ How many of the times? _____
4. Was a doctor called for each illness? _____ If not, for how many? _____
5. What was your illness each time?

6. Do you consider yourself in good health? _____
7. Have you ever had a thorough examination by a physician? _____ When? _____
8. Do you have your teeth examined by a dentist?
 At a regular time each year? _____
 If so, how often
 Only when they hurt _____
 Never _____
9. Do you have any trouble with your eyes? _____
10. Have your eyes been examined by an oculist? _____
11. Do you wear glasses? _____
12. Do you have trouble with your ears? _____
13. Have your ears been examined by a physician? _____
 An ear specialist? _____
14. Do you have any physical defects? _____ If so, what _____

PART VI

1. What do you plan to do when you finish school? _____

2. Is this the type of work you want most to do? _____
3. Are the courses you have taken in college the ones
you wanted most? _____ If not, list the ones
you have wanted most and could not take

